

Amendments to the Claims

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

Listing of Claims

1-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) A piece of baggage, the piece of baggage comprising:

a baggage portion having an internal compartment;

a towing handle;

a single-pole telescoping arm having two ends, a length therebetween, and a center-axis defined by said length, said arm operatively connected to said towing handle at a first of said two ends and to said piece of baggage at a second of said two ends, said arm portion being telescopically movable between extended and retracted positions such that the towing handle is closer to the piece of baggage when the arm is in the retracted position than when the arm is in the extended position;

a pivot mechanism connecting the towing handle to said arm in a manner that allows the towing handle to be pivoted generally about said center-axis relative to said arm; and

a locking mechanism ~~connecting operatively connected to~~ said towing handle ~~to and~~ said arm, said locking mechanism being and that is selectively moveable between a locked position and an unlocked position relative to said arm when said arm is in said extended position;

wherein said locking mechanism operates to limit ~~limiting~~ the pivoting of said towing handle about said center-axis when in said locked position and does not so limit ~~limiting~~ the pivoting of said towing handle about said ~~the~~ center-axis when in said unlocked position.

9. (Previously Presented) The piece of luggage of claim 8, wherein: said piece of luggage further comprises:

a release button, said release button being configured and adapted to move said locking mechanism from said locked position to said unlocked position when said release button is pressed.

10. (Previously Presented) The piece of baggage of claim 9 wherein: said arm is selectively lockable in said extended position and said retracted position and said release button must also be pressed to move said arm between said extended position and said retracted position.

11. (Previously Presented) The piece of baggage of claim 10, wherein: said release button is provided on said towing handle.

12. (Previously Presented) The piece of baggage of claim 9, wherein: said release button is provided on said towing handle.

13. (Previously Presented) The piece of baggage of claim 8, wherein: said pivot mechanism allows said towing handle to rotate at least 360 degrees about said center-axis.

14. (Previously Presented) The piece of baggage of claim 8, wherein: said towing handle is T-shaped and has an elongated hand grip with opposite ends and a stem that intersects and projects from the hand grip intermediate said hand grip opposite ends, and said center-axis is generally co-linear to an axis passing through said stem and generally perpendicular to said hand grip.

15. (Previously Presented) The piece of baggage of claim 8 further comprising:

at least two wheels mounted to the baggage portion for rotation about a wheel axis
relative to the baggage portion;

wherein said center-axis is generally perpendicular to said wheel axis.